

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL
COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Photograph



Locus Map



Recorded by: Lara Kritzer, JM Goldson
community preservation + planning

Organization: Hanson Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): June 2018

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form
Number

75-0-24-0

Hanover

HNS.266

Town/City: Hanson

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Address: 744 West Washington Street

Historic Name: Joseph and Eliza White House

Uses: Present: Single-Family
Residential
Original: Single-Family Residential

Date of Construction: ca. 1830

Source: White's History, Plan 2 No. 19

Style/Form: Federal/Cape

Architect/Builder: Capt. Nathaniel Collamore

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Granite

Wall/Trim: Wood Shingle, Wood
Clapboard/Wood

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

None

Major Alterations (*with dates*): Two-story, gable-end addition to north façade with a shed-roofed enclosed porch along its east façade and an attached two-car garage to the northeast.

Condition: Good

Moved: no ☒ **yes** ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: 1.00 Acres

Setting: Located on one of Hanson's main thoroughfares in an area of predominantly single-family homes ranging from early eighteenth century farmhouses to late twentieth century suburban development on large lots which includes grass lawns and numerous mature trees, bushes, and other vegetation.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The one-and-a-half story Cape style house has an asphalt shingled gable roof with a large, square painted brick chimney at the center of the roof ridge. The house sits close to the road and has a tall, cross gable addition on its north façade which extends up over the original gable roof of the house with a wood shingled and molding trimmed triangle of roof visible behind the chimney. The addition has a long, one-story enclosed porch across its east façade that connects the house to the gable roofed two-car garage to the northeast. The house is wood clapboard sided on its south façade with wood shingle siding on its side facades and additions. The double hung windows are twelve-over-twelve wood windows. The roof of the house overhangs the gable facades only slightly with wide wood trimmed eaves and soffits projecting out over the cornice and corner boards below. The roof ends flush with the gable-end facades and a narrow band of wood trim outlines the pediment. This trim board extends only slightly beyond the corner boards with tiny, box style ends. The wood frames of the windows have wood molding surrounding the top and sides of each window with projecting wood sills.

The original Cape style house faces south towards the street and has a symmetrical front facade with two windows set just below the cornice board on either side of the center entrance. The door frame has a narrow frieze which extends up over the cornice and undecorated pilasters are located to either side of the solid wood panel door. The door opens onto a granite step leading into the yard.

The west and east gable-ends of the house are identical in design with two double hung windows in the gable-end and a window at each end of the first floor. To the north of the original Cape, the tall cross-gable addition extends across the northeast half of the north facade. On its west façade, the addition has a garrison style façade with a pair of double hung windows in the overhanging second floor over casement windows on the first floor. On its east façade, the long second story has two skylights in the east roof slope over two small double hung windows. A wide shed roofed addition extends across the first floor of the east façade and projects out beyond the east façade of the original house. The addition has wide wood trimmed eaves that project out over its south and east facades. The facades are made up of full length, single paned glass door and fixed panes that line both facades. A second, much smaller corbeled brick chimney is visible on the north façade of the house. In the far northeast corner of the enclosed porch, the house connects to a gable roofed garage that faces south towards the street. A small cupola and weathervane are located on the ridge between the two garage doors below. Both doors are located in the right half of the façade and are wood overhead doors with divided lights across their top panel. A long, steeply pitched shed roofed addition is located on the east façade of the garage.

An asphalt driveway runs along the east façade of the house to the garage, with a wide paved parking area along the east property line. To the west of the house, a wood stockade privacy fence extends to the west property line but does not turn the corner. It ends at a dirt farm road with a metal gate leading to the field to the north. A low, largely fallen fieldstone wall runs along the road in front of the house, and mature trees and evergreens surround the property to the east and north. Foundation plantings and evergreens are also located in planting beds along the east and south property lines.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE:

Continuation sheet 3

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Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

According to White's History of Hanson, this house was built in 1827 by Captain Nathaniel Collamore as a two-story house. Captain Nathaniel Collamore (1789-1865) lived to the east of this property at what is now 698 West Washington Street where he ran a store and served as Hanson's first postmaster. In 1813, Nathaniel married Mary Wales of Bridgewater and the family continued to live here for many years, with N. Collamore shown as the owner of the property on the 1830 Smith Plan. Collamore presumably built this second house to the west of his home on land subdivided from his own property either as a speculative development or a future home of his own. However, according to White, when the house was sold to his grandfather, Joseph White Jr., in 1830, Joseph "cut down and finished it" suggesting that Collamore had never completed construction on the building.

Joseph White (1809-1857) was born in Scituate to Timothy and Temperance White and married Eliza Bonney (1811-1880) in 1831 in Hanson. The couple moved directly into the newly shortened and finished house, where the family remained through the rest of the nineteenth century. The couple had five children, three daughters and two sons, and White includes a family story that the house was divided with another family, the Keiths, for a time by drawing a chalk line across the kitchen floor. White's History also states that the present addition to the north gable-end was a former blacksmith shop that had been located to the west of this property next to the North Hanson Depot. Joseph purchased and moved the shop to this location, where he used the space to manufacture boxes. White's History does not give a date for the relocation of the blacksmith house but does note that the house was assessed at \$400.00 in 1832, including yards, buildings and one acre of land.

Joseph White is listed as the owner of the property on the 1856 Walling Map of Hanson shortly before his death and is still listed as a box maker in the 1850 U.S. Census. Meanwhile, the couple's only surviving son, Joseph White Jr. (1832-1902), is listed as a tanner in 1850 and would go on to marry Sarah E. Perry in Hanson in 1859 and move across the street to the house at 775 West Washington Street in 1860. Eliza B. White remained at 744 West Washington Street and is listed as "Mrs. White" on the 1879 Walker Atlas. By that time, though, Joseph Jr. had purchased much of the surrounding property and is listed in the 1880 U.S. Census as a horse trader. While Joseph Jr. continued to live at 775 West Washington Street, he developed the former family homestead into a complex which included two carriage repositories, a stable, pond, and office located to the east and north of his mother's home.

Joseph Jr.'s son, Joseph Bartlett White (1867-1937) inherited the property and business after his father's death in 1902 but does not appear to have lived in this house, as Joseph B. White is listed in a house to the west of the Carriage Repository and Stable on the 1903 Richards Map. The house appears here but its use and residents are not noted. Joseph B. married Annie W. Bates in 1892 and the couple continued to live on the estate where Joseph worked as a horse and carriage dealer. By the 1910 U.S. Census, Joseph and Annie are listed as living in Bridgewater where Joseph worked as a real estate dealer but they soon after returned to Hanson where White would go on to write his History of Hanson in the 1920s and 1930s. After Joseph's death in 1937, Annie White sold the Hanson property to real estate broker Francis Arnold.¹ Later in 1938, Dana M. Pratt, C.E., was hired to divide the property into separate lots.² The original family homestead was sold in 1939 along with lots A, B and D to Raymond and Marjorie Hopkins of Weymouth.³ Raymond Emerson Hopkins (1902-1971) was born in Rockland and worked in the Goodyear department of U.S. Machinery. In 1971, Marjorie Hopkins sold the house and lots A, B, and D of the original White farm to current owners Dean and Ruth Sylvester.⁴

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

¹ Plymouth Registry of Deeds, Book 1754, Page 585

² Plymouth Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 6, Page 365

³ Plymouth Registry of Deeds, Book 1766, Page 286

⁴ Plymouth Registry of Deeds, Book 3712, Page 595

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www.digitalcommonwealth.org/search/commonwealth:1257bd15g

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